

**FAMILY LAW SECTION**

**Respectfully submits the following position on:**

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**HB 5082**

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The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan itself, but rather a Section which members of the State Bar choose voluntarily to join, based on common professional interest.

The position expressed is that of the Family Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan.

The State Bar's position in this matter is to support the bill.

The total membership of the Family Law Section is 2,481.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 21. The number who voted in favor to this position was 18. The number who voted opposed to this position was 1.

**Report on Public Policy Position**

**Name of Section:**

Family Law Section

**Contact person:**

Kent Weichmann

**E-Mail:**

[weichmannk@att.net](mailto:weichmannk@att.net)

**Bill Number:**

[HB 5082](#) (Heise) Family law; parenting time; parenting coordinator; create. Amends [1970 PA 91](#) (MCL [722.21](#) - [722.31](#)) by adding sec. 7c.

**Date position was adopted:**

November 2, 2013

**Process used to take the ideological position:**

Position adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting.

**Number of members in the decision-making body:**

21

**Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:**

18 Voted for position

1 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

2 Did not vote

**Position:**

Support

**Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:**

HB 5082 regulates the ongoing practice of parenting coordination. It allows the appointment of a parenting coordinator only if the parties agree to the appointment and the terms of the parenting coordination. It requires all parenting coordinators to complete training requirements set out by the State Court Administrators Office. Parenting coordinators are provided immunity only when acting within the scope of their duties. A parenting coordination may be terminated at any time that the court finds it is no longer helpful to the court in resolving parenting disputes. The Family Law Section supports this bill.

**The text of any legislation, court rule, or administrative regulation that is the subject of or referenced in this report.** <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2013-HB-5082>